(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN):(a) to (c) "One India" involves a series of steps with a final objective of uniform and reduced call rates across the country. The Government has initiated following steps in this direction:

(i) The Dialing procedure was simplified between Kolkata & West Bengal, Mumbai & Maharashtra, Chennai & Tamilnadu and in Uttar Pradesh

(ii) Reduction in entry fee for National and International long distance service licences.

(iii) Reduction in licence fee for National and International long distance service and Very Small Aperture Satellite Terminal (V-SAT) commercial licences with effect from 1.1.2006.

(iv) The Access service providers have been permitted to provide Internet Telephony.

Steps are afoot to ensure that the Access Deficit Charge (ADC) is migrated to revenue share basis instead of fixed amount on per minute basis.

(d) The Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI) has welcomed the initiated of the Government.

(e) Does not arise in view of (d) above.

Encroachment of land

†*38. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that encroachment of the land under the National Highways is still going on;

(b) if so, whether Government have formulated any policy to prevent this encroachment;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to make Government land free from encroachment and to ensure prevention of its recurrence?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T. R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Considering the seriousness of this problem, the Government has enacted the National highways (Land and Traffic) Act, 2002, which has come into effect from 27.1.2005.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The above Act provides, inter-alia, prevention and removal of unauthorised occupation of National Highway land. To exercise the powers and discharge the function under the Act, 192 Highway Administrations have been set up all over the country. These National Highway Administrations are empowered to take cognizance and removal of unauthorised occupation on National Highway land.

Budget for R&D

*39. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:
SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of our budget earmarked for Research and Development in relevant areas with a view to keeping ourselves abreast of latest technological innovations happenings all over the globe;

(b) whether Government are thinking of out-sourcing Research and Development work to specialized centres where capabilities exist for taking our technology to match the global standards; and

(c) To what extent the findings of the recent World Investment Report released by UNCTAD would be useful in updating technology in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) Around six percent of the Central Plan Outlay has been earmarked for the six scientific departments of Atomic energy, Ocean Development, Science and Technology, Biotechnology, Scientific and Industrial Research and Space during the current financial year 2005-06. Additionally, around eleven percent has earmarked for the ministries/departments of Agriculture, Health, Defence